News Release

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Absentee Voting for the June Primaries Begins April 27, 2018

RICHMOND, VA – Absentee voting for the June 12, 2018 primary elections starts statewide today, Friday, April 27th. Qualified Virginia voters may vote absentee in-person at their local voter registration office or vote absentee by mail. Registered voters must meet one of the 20 eligibility requirements to vote absentee. The list of requirements can be found on the <u>Virginia Absentee Ballot Application</u> or at the Virginia Department of Elections' Citizen Portal vote.virginia.gov.

"Absentee voting is a great opportunity for eligible voters in the Commonwealth of Virginia to participate in our democracy when they cannot make it to their polling place on Election Day," said Department of Elections Commissioner Christopher E. Piper. "We hope any eligible voter who wishes to request an absentee ballot utilizes our website or requests their application inperson or by mail."

Virginia citizens who wish to vote absentee must be registered to vote. Citizens can register to vote online or by submitting a completed voter registration application to their local voter registration office. The last day to register or update your address to vote in the June 12th primary elections is Monday, May 21st, 2018. Registrations must be received or postmarked by this date.

Beginning Friday, April 27th, in-person absentee voting is available at local voter registration offices Monday through Friday during regular office hours and on Saturday, June 9th. The last day for in-person absentee voting is Saturday, June 9th, 2018. Office hours and locations for in-person absentee voting are available online at vote.virginia.gov.

The deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail is 5:00 PM, Tuesday, June 5, 2018. If you need to request an absentee ballot by mail, we advise applying as early as possible to account for any potential delays in mail delivery. Absentee ballots returned by mail must be received by your voter registration office by 7:00pm on Election Day. Voters can request an absentee ballot online using the Department's secure online Citizen Portal at vote.virginia.gov.

Virginia law requires voters to present an acceptable photo ID when voting in-person. For a list of acceptable forms of photo identification or to find out how to obtain a *free* Virginia Voter

Photo ID Card, please visit <u>vote.virginia.gov</u>. Voters can also find information about the upcoming election and check their registration status on the site. The Department of Elections' toll free number is 1-800-552-9745 for further questions.

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